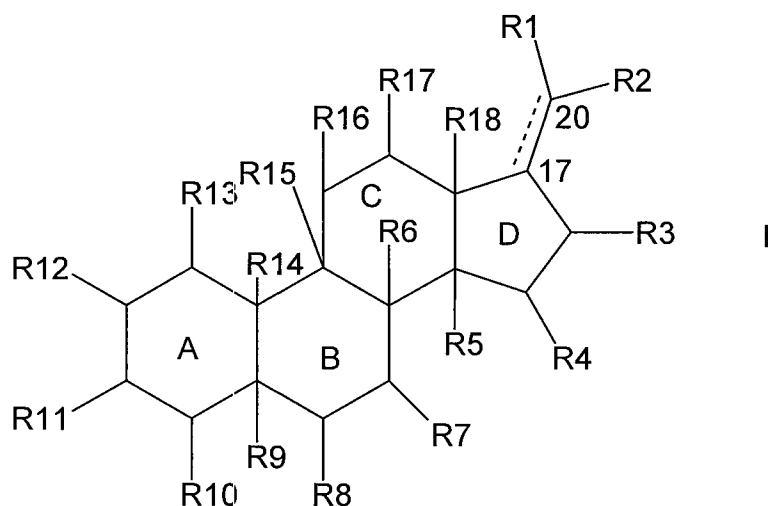


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound according to formula I



wherein the fused rings A, B, C and D are independently saturated or ~~fully or~~ partially unsaturated;

wherein the bond between C-17 and C-20 is depicted with a full and a dotted line to indicate that said bond can be a single or a double bond;

wherein R1 represents a straight or branched, saturated or unsaturated C<sub>1-10</sub> alkyl; is ~~hydrogen, halogen, a lipophilic group, (Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub> or C(O)-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub>, wherein n is 0 or 1 and p is an integer from 1 and 5; each Z independently represents straight or branched hydrocarbon diradical, optionally substituted with C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, C<sub>1-6</sub> aminoalkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> aminoalkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylC<sub>3-8</sub> cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylheteroaryl~~;

~~each R independently represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkoxy or C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, all of which are optionally substituted with alkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl;~~

~~provided that at least one Z is substituted with C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylC<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylheteroaryl, or at least one R is different from hydrogen;~~

~~R<sub>2</sub> represents halogen, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, optionally substituted with COOH; C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, -COOH  $[[,]]$  or  $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$  or  $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ , wherein n is 0 or 1 and p is an integer from 1 and 5;~~

~~each Z independently represents straight or branched hydrocarbon diradical, optionally substituted with C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino,~~

~~C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkylaminocarbonyl,~~

~~C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylC<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylheteroaryl; and~~

~~each R independently represents hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl,~~

~~C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkoxy or C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkylaminocarbonyl, all of which are optionally substituted with alkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl;~~

~~provided that at least one Z is substituted with C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkynyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>aminoalkylaminocarbonyl,~~

~~C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylC<sub>3-8</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylheteroaryl, or at least one R is different from hydrogen;~~

~~R<sub>3</sub> represents hydrogen halogen or O-R<sub>19</sub>, wherein R<sub>19</sub> represents hydrogen, -SO<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl  $[[,]]$  or C<sub>1-6</sub>acyl or  $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ ;~~

each of R4, R7, R8, ~~[[R11,]]~~ R12, R13, R16 and R17 independently represent hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, -OSO<sub>3</sub>, or -O-acyl, ~~-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub> or C(O)-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub>;~~

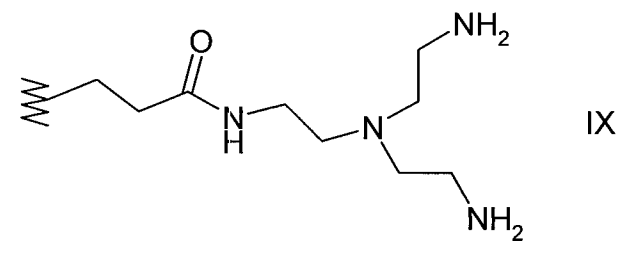
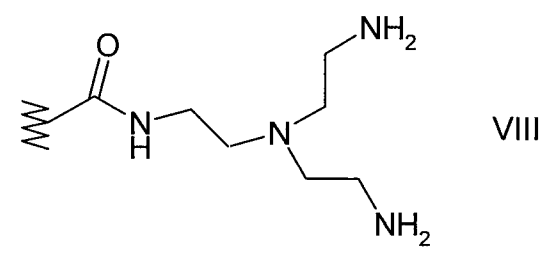
R10 represents hydrogen, methyl, halogen, hydroxy, -OSO<sub>3</sub>, or -O-acyl, ~~-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub> or C(O)-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub>;~~

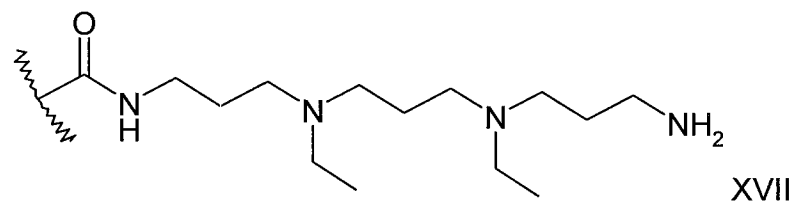
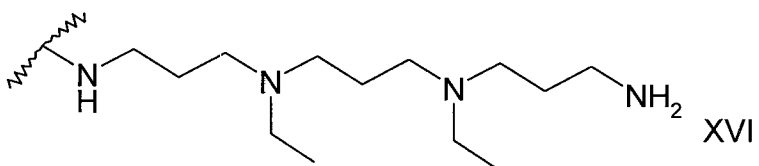
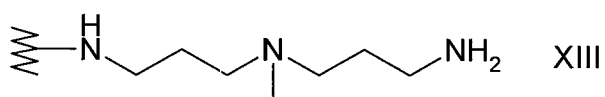
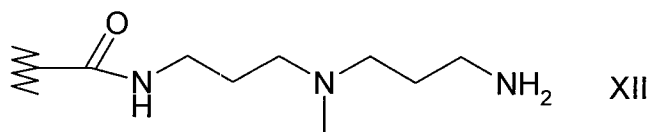
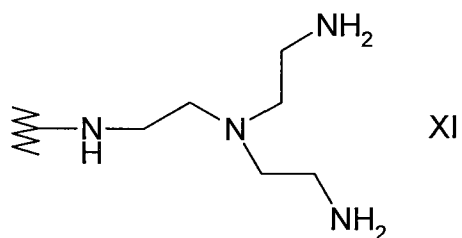
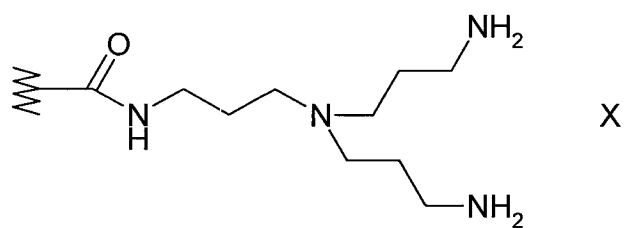
R11 represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, -OSO<sub>3</sub>, -O-acyl, -(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub> or C(O)-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub>;

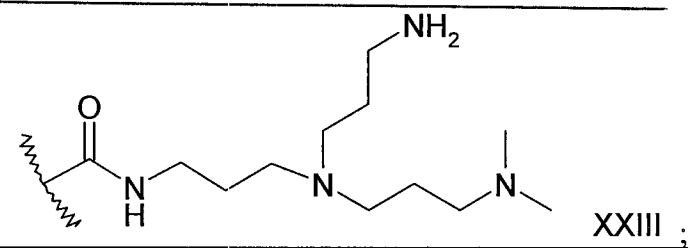
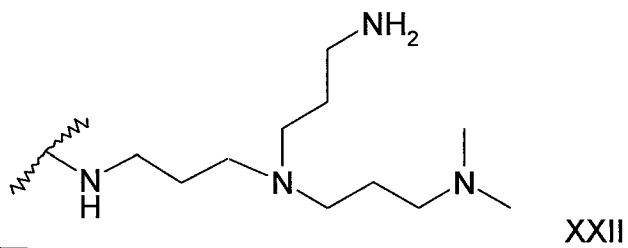
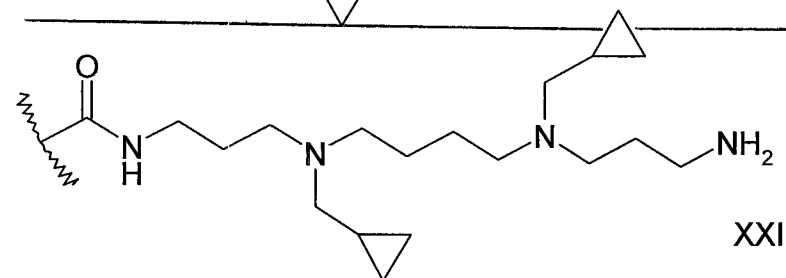
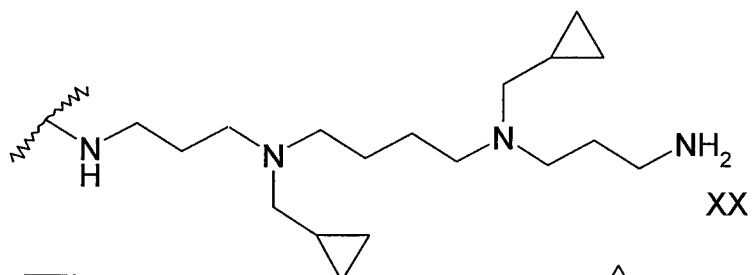
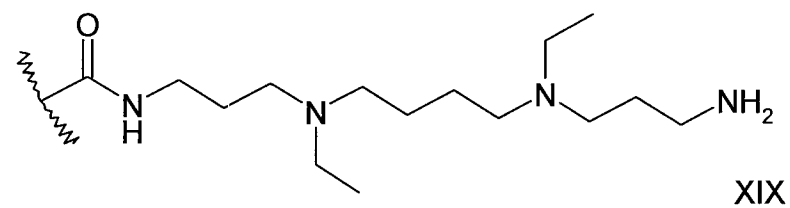
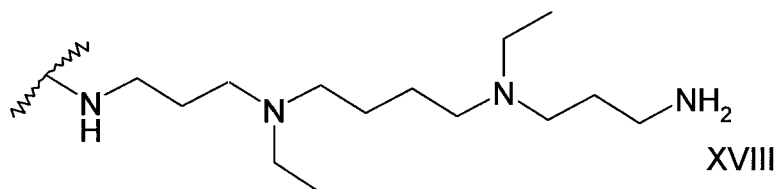
each of R5, R6, R9, R14, R15 and R18 independently represent hydrogen or methyl or are each independently absent when one of the fused rings, A, B, C and D are unsaturated so as to complete the valency of the carbon atom at that site;

provided that at least one, ~~and not more than three~~ of R1, R2 and ~~;~~ R4, R7, R8, R10, R11 ~~;~~ R12, R13, R16 ~~and~~ R17 is ~~-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub> or C(O)-(Z)<sub>n</sub>-(NR-Z)<sub>p</sub>-N(R)<sub>2</sub>;~~

wherein R2 and/or R11 represents a moiety of the formula VIII, IX, X, XI, Xii, Xiii, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII or XXIII







provided that the compound is not

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\beta$ -(2-dimethylaminoethyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -stigmastane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\beta$ -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -stigmastane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\beta$ -(3-dimethylaminopropyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -stigmastane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\alpha$ -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -stigmastane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\beta$ -(2-dimethylaminoethyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -cholestane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\beta$ -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -cholestane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\beta$ -(3-dimethylaminopropyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -cholestane,~~

~~3 $\beta$ -hydroxy-6 $\alpha$ -(2-diethylaminoethyl)amino-5 $\alpha$ -cholestane,~~

~~20-( $\gamma$ -diethylaminopropyl)-amino-5 $\alpha$ -pregnan-3 $\beta$ -ol,~~

~~20-( $\beta$ -diethylaminoethyl)-amino-5 $\alpha$ -pregnan-3 $\beta$ -ol,~~

~~20-( $\beta$ -dimethylaminoethyl)-amino-5 $\alpha$ -pregnan-3 $\beta$ -ol,~~

~~20-( $\beta$ -dimethylaminoethyl)-aminopregn-5-en-3 $\beta$ -ol,~~

~~20-( $\beta$ -diethylaminoethyl)-aminopregn-5-en-3 $\beta$ -ol,~~

~~N( $\beta$ -diethylaminoethyl)-3 $\alpha$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,12 $\alpha$ -trihydroxy-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-amide,~~

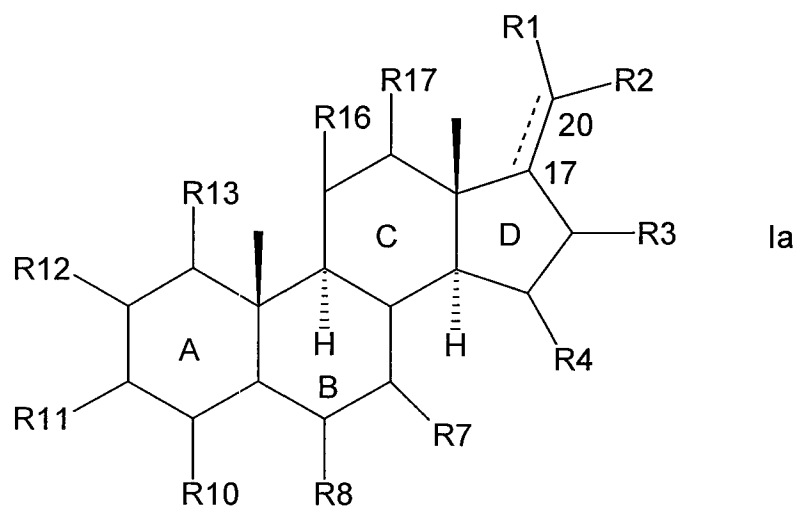
~~N( $\beta$ -diethylaminoethyl)-3 $\alpha$ ,12 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-amide,~~

~~N( $\beta$ -diethylaminoethyl)-3 $\alpha$ ,7 $\alpha$ ,12 $\alpha$ -trihydroxy-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-amine, or~~

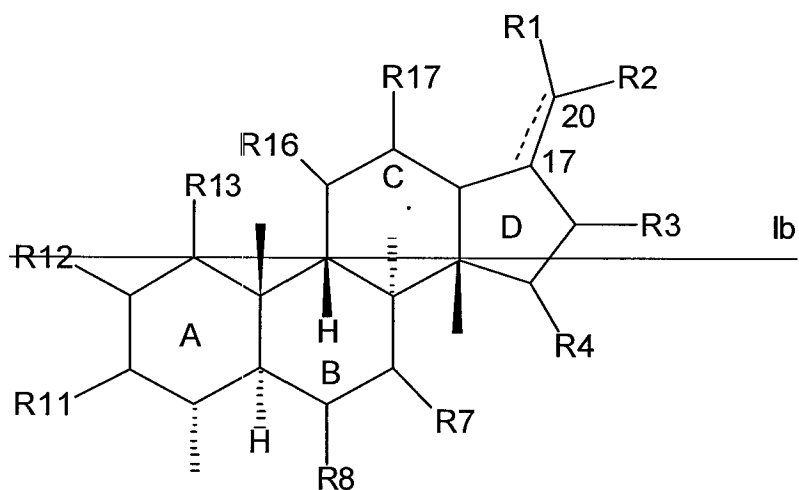
~~N( $\beta$ -diethylaminoethyl)-3 $\alpha$ ,12 $\alpha$ -dihydroxy-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-amine, and~~

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>2</sub> represents  $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$  or  $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ .
3. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein ~~R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>11</sub> and/or R<sub>16</sub>~~ represents  $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$  or  $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ .
- 4.-5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>19</sub> represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>acyl.
7. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>11</sub> and/or R<sub>16</sub> represents OH.
8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>11</sub> represents  $-OSO_3$ .
9. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sub>11</sub> represents  $-O$ -acyl.
10. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 which has the general formula Ia



or which has the general formula Ib



11. (Cancelled)

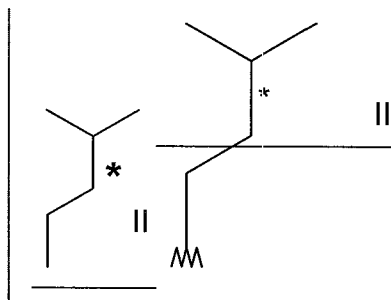
12. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 10, wherein R2 represents  $-(Z)_n-$   $(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$  or  $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ .



13. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R7 and R11 are both hydroxy.
14. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R11 and R16 are both hydroxy.
15. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R3 is -OR19, wherein R19 is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>acyl.

16.-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 12, wherein R1 is a moiety of formula II



wherein the carbon-carbon bond denoted “\*” is a single or double bond.

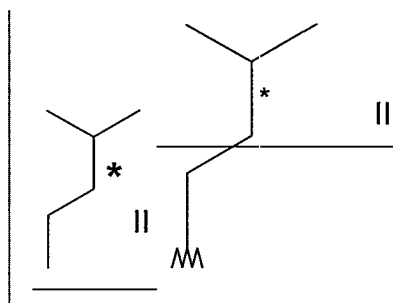
19. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 10, wherein R11 represents  $-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$  or  $C(O)-(Z)_n-(NR-Z)_p-N(R)_2$ .

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) A compound according to claim 19, wherein R3 is O-R19, wherein R19 represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>acyl.

22.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 19, wherein R1 is a moiety of formula II



wherein the carbon-carbon bond denoted “\*” is a single or double bond.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 selected from the list consisting of  
 21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,  
 21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-11-desoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-  
 21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-16-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-13(17)-en-17,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusidan-21-carboxamide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-3 $\beta$ -desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-9(11)-en-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

24-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-3 $\alpha$ -hydroxy-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-amide,

22-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-23,24-bisnor-5-cholenic-22-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-fusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-fusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-3-OSO<sub>3</sub>-11-desoxy-17,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-11-desoxy-16-desacetoxy-17S,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

22-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-23,24-bisnor-5-cholenic-22-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-3-OAc-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-3-OSO<sub>3</sub>-11-desoxy-17,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-11-desoxy-16-desacetoxy-17S,20,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

3-N-{2'-[bis(2'-aminoethyl)amino]ethyl}-fusidic acid,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-11-desoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-16-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

24-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-3 $\alpha$ -hydroxy-5 $\beta$ -cholan-24-amide,

21-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-11-desoxy-16-desacetoxy-17R,20S,24,25-tetrahydrofusid-21-amide,

3-N-{3'-[bis(3'-aminopropyl)amino]propyl}-fusidic acid,

3-N-{3'-[(3'-aminopropyl)(methyl)amino]propyl}-fusidic acid.

27. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, optionally together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or vehicle, and optionally other therapeutically active agents.

28. - 32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing or treating a bacterial infection, the method comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

34. - 36. (Cancelled)

37. (New) A compound according to claim 1 which has the general formula Ib

